AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A temporary absorbable venous occlusive stent, comprising:

a stent body;

a bio-absorbable material associated with said body; and

closure means for blocking blood flow past said stent when implanted in a vein.

2. (Original) A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said stent body is generally tubular.

3. (Original) A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said stent body is generally cylindrical.

4. (Original) A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said bio-absorbable material is provided by a material used to form said stent body.

5. (Original) A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said bio-absorbable material comprises polylactic acid.

6. (Original) A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said closure means comprises a drawstring closure system at one end of said stent body.

7. (Original) A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said closure means comprises a drawstring closure system having a pair of drawstring ends.

8. (Withdrawn) A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said closure means comprises a closed end wall associated with said body.

9. (Withdrawn) A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said closure means comprises a closed end wall mounted on said body.

10. (Withdrawn) A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said closure means is provided by said stent body having a generally solid interior portion.

11. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a varicose vein, comprising:

introducing a temporary absorbable venous occlusive stent to an implantation site proximate to or above a varicose vein to be treated, said stent comprising:

a stent body;

a bio-absorbable material associated with said body; and

closure means for blocking blood flow past said stent when implanted in a vein;

deploying said stent against a vein wall at said implantation site so as to block blood flow past said stent; and

allowing said stent to form a blockage at said implantation site as said stent is absorbed.

12. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is introduced via a deep venous system approach.

13. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is introduced via cephalic vein approach.

14. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is introduced via a superficial venous system approach.

15. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is introduced via a sheath introducer.

16. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is introduced via a sheath introducer and a guide wire.

17. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is introduced by way of magnetic guidance.

18. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is deployed using a balloon catheter.

19. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is deployed using a balloon catheter and manipulation of said closure means.

20. (Currently Amended) A temporary absorbable venous occlusive stent, comprising:

a stent body comprising a bio-absorbable material; and

~~a~~ an adjustable closure device ~~configuration~~ associated with said stent body, said closure device comprising:

an open configuration in which said closure device permits blood flow past said stent body; and

a blocking configuration in which said closure device forms a wall that blocks ~~for blocking~~ blood flow past said stent body ~~when implanted in a vein~~.

21. (New) A stent in accordance with claim 20 wherein said stent body is generally tubular.

22. (New) A stent in accordance with claim 20 wherein said stent body is generally cylindrical.

23. (New) A stent in accordance with claim 20 wherein said bio-absorbable material is provided by a material used to form said stent body.

24. (New) A stent in accordance with claim 20 wherein said bio-absorbable material comprises polylactic acid.

25. (New) A stent in accordance with claim 20 wherein said closure device comprises a drawstring closure system at one end of said stent body.

26. (New) A stent in accordance with claim 20 wherein said closure device comprises a drawstring closure system having a pair of drawstring ends.

27. (New) A stent in accordance with claim 20 wherein said closure device in the blocking configuration blocks blood flow sufficiently to induce clotting and fibrosis.

28. (New) A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said closure means blocks blood flow to a degree sufficient to induce clotting and fibrosis at an implantation site of said stent body.